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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

SUBJECT Material Shortages

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1. The State Planning Commission regards the question of the supply of raw iron and rolled steel as particularly critical, both for the Five Year Plan and for the general investment program. The needs for these materials can be supplied by the Soviet Union only to the extent of 44 percent for raw iron and 50 percent for rolled steel.
2. The production plan in non-ferrous metals for 1951 could not be fulfilled. Of the planned quotas for the foundries, only 30 to 60 percent of quotas were attained in arsenic, nickel and raw tin; 90 percent for copper and lead. The quotas in refined tin, zinc, selenium and antimony were attained.
3. In rolled metal 50 percent of the quota was reached in lead and zinc, 60 to 67 percent in bronze and aluminum, 83 to 85 percent in brass and copper.
4. The quotas for 1952 were accommodated to possibilities as follows:

	<u>1952</u>	<u>Q u o t a</u>	<u>1951</u>
Lead	18,900 T		20,100 T
Nickel	135 T		300 T
Magnesium	1,500 T		2,000 T
Copper	27,300 T		27,000 T

5. The shortages in raw iron and rolled steel are regarded as only solvable through import from the west. In the case of non-ferrous metals, the solution is to be greater economy in their use, increased employment of white metal scrap and import.

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